

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Formreceived NOV 15 1983
date entered DEC 15 1983See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections**1. Name**

historic N/A

and/or common Neligh Mill Elevators (*Bowling Green*) (AP04-6)^e**2. Location**

street & number 111 West Second N/A not for publication

city, town Neligh N/A vicinity of

state Nebraska code 31 county Antelope code 003

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name White Grain Company

street & number N/A

city, town Neligh N/A vicinity of state Nebraska

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Clerk, Antelope County Courthouse

street & number 102 East Fifth

city, town Neligh state Nebraska

6. Representation in Existing Surveystitle Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ nodate On-going ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Nebraska State Historical Society

city, town Lincoln state Nebraska

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Neligh Mill elevators and warehouse are located adjacent to the Neligh Mill (see NRHP 1969) on the banks of the Elkhorn River in Neligh, Nebraska (1980 population 1893). The frame structures are joined together and covered with corrugated metal siding. The warehouse and wheat elevator were built in 1886. The corn elevator was built in 1899.

The Neligh Mill was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1969. The original nomination did not include the two elevators and a warehouse directly north of the mill. The State Historic Preservation Office and the White Grain Company, owner of the elevators and warehouse, concur that these structures are also important to the Neligh Mill in forming an historical entity. This amendment includes the following structures:

Flour Storage Warehouse, 1886. A one story frame building measuring 24 x 36 feet covered with corrugated metal siding. Structure has gabled roof and 1964 masonry addition on north which serves as the White Grain Company office. A corn storage bin is located with the warehouse along the east wall.

Wheat elevator, 1886. Frame structure measuring 36 x 36 feet, 28 feet high. Building has gable roof topped with a monitor. Structure is sided with corrugated metal. Interior vertical conveyor belts move wheat to four large bins within elevator. A 10 x 22 feet storage shed was added to the east wall of the wheat elevator by White Grain Company several years ago.

Corn elevator, 1899. Built in between warehouse and wheat elevator, 20 x 36 feet, 28 feet high with a gable roof and corrugated metal siding. Elevator was equipped with a corn sheller, unloading scale and interior storage bins supplied by vertical conveyor belts.

The construction of the corn elevator in 1899 connected the warehouse and the wheat elevator making a long attached structure. The elevators are being used by the White Grain Company for their original purpose.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
present		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1886, 1899 **Builder/Architect** H. Beckman Co.

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Neligh Mill elevators and warehouse are significant in the areas of agriculture and commerce. The elevators provided farmers the opportunity to get better prices for their grain and assured them a ready market. With this expansion, the Neligh Mill became the largest milling company in northeastern Nebraska and was able to operate more efficiently.

The Neligh Mill, constructed in 1873-74, is one of hundreds of flouring mills established in Nebraska's early settlement years. The town of Neligh, platted in 1873, grew around the mill. John D. Neligh, founder of the town had the mill built to encourage growth in his fledgling community and to provide nearby farmers an outlet for selling their grain. During the panic of 1873, Mr. Neligh suffered severe financial losses and sold the mill to the firm of Lambert and Gallaway. This firm completed the building and began milling operations on October 10, 1874.

The Neligh Mill soon prospered and by the early 20th century, the mill was shipping flour throughout the United States and Europe. It is said that the "Gold Medal" brand of flour was originated at the Mill in the early 1900's and that the brand name was subsequently sold to General Mills.

By the 1930's, the mill produced wheat, buckwheat and rye flour, wholewheat and rye graham, cornmeal and livestock feed. In the 1940's, business began declining and flour milling ceased in 1959.

In 1970, the State of Nebraska acquired the mill complete with 19th century machinery. The Nebraska State Historical Society restored the mill property and currently operates the site as a branch museum.

In April of 1886, the Neligh Mill Company realized a need for more grain storage space. The H. Beckman Company was awarded the contract to erect an elevator north of the mill with the A. L. Strang Company to provide the machinery to clean and handle the grain. The power for running the machinery came from the extension of a drive shaft from the attic of the mill, which operated both the mill and the elevator conveyors by water power from the Elkhorn River. By October, the new elevator was in operation.

The flour warehouse was also constructed in 1886. This provided a place for the storage and selling of flour.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Neligh, Nebr.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	4
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5	8	0	1	6	0
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4	6	6	4	0	5	0
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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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Verbal boundary description and justification The Neligh Mill elevators are located on Block 22 Original Town of Neligh, within the heavy black line on the enclosed copy of the county surveyor's certificate, and includes all of the historically associated property. The Neligh Mill (see NRHP 1969) is situated on the remainder of Block 22, Original Town of Neligh.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
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state	N/A	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janet Jeffries Spencer, Cultural Historian

organization Nebraska State Historical Society

date September, 1983

street & number 1500 R Street

telephone 402/471-3270

city or town Lincoln

state Nebraska

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☒ state ☐ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Marian D. Lynett

11/4/83

title Director, Nebraska State Historical Society

date

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Delores Byers
for Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 12/15/83

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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By April 1899, the Neligh Mill Company made plans to add 20 more feet to the wheat elevator to be used as a corn elevator. This extension joined the wheat elevator with the flour warehouse. This new elevator had a corn sheller in the basement. By November 1899, the machinery was connected to the mill for power and was operating full scale.

The Neligh Mill elevators and warehouse are significant in the areas of agriculture and commerce. This added storage space at the Neligh Mill meant that the proprietors could hold grain and sell it at a later date when prices were higher, giving the farmers a better advantage. The addition of the mill elevators and warehouse assured farmers in northeastern Nebraska of a place to market their grain. The entire milling operations became more efficient with the installation of grain dumping areas. This did away with the task of unloading wagons by hand. With the construction of the elevators, the need for farmers to ship grain from Neligh to sell elsewhere diminished rapidly. The mill used whatever excess grain local livestock feeders didn't purchase. As early as 1899, corn meal was being shipped to the west coast in such large quantities that there was a need to call for more corn to be brought to the elevator. After the elevators and warehouse were added to the Neligh Mill Company complex, business expanded rapidly and enjoyed some national recognition with increased shipments of products.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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Antelope County Land Records.

Neligh Advocate newspaper 1886.

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Sanborn Insurance Map, 1921.